

PARTNERS OF THE AMERICAS
IADN: ENGAGING CIVIL SOCIETY IN THE AMERICAS
(LAG-G-00-00-00036-00)

Quarterly Report
October 1 – December 31, 2003

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I. BACKGROUND

The 1995 Summit of the Americas Plan of Action called for preserving and strengthening the community of democracies in the Americas by stressing economic prosperity, democracy and human rights in the hemisphere. At the same time, the Inter-American Democracy Network (IADN or Network) began to take shape as a result of the joint efforts of five Latin American civil society organizations, working with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Partners of the Americas (Partners), to use citizen participation to strengthen and support the process of democratization which was sweeping across Latin America.

In 1995, USAID/LAC entered into a five-year cooperative agreement with Partners to build the Inter-American Democracy Network. The grant enabled this core group of founding members to transfer their skills in participatory democratic practices to dozens of other CSOs in the region. In September, 2000, building on the success in the first five years and based on a participatory evaluation of the IADN, USAID extended its support of the IADN through a new Cooperative Agreement with Partners. This three-year program was designed to increase and sustain collaborative action among leading CSOs in the region. The program focused on further strengthening the IADN, to ensure that: (1) its efforts to support self-help collaboration between members could be sustained; and (2) the network becomes a viable voice for civil society in Latin America and the Caribbean. To this end, Partners has worked with the Network to design and implement its governance structure—including a democratically-elected Coordinating Group and an Executive Secretariat. Moreover, Partners has guided the development of an Internet-based system for communications and outreach, the participatory development of network governing processes, and workshops, training and assistance in such areas as fund raising and alliance building. The Network has grown into the largest organization of its kind in the Western Hemisphere, counting among its members some 250 CSOs from 24 countries.

In 2003, USAID extended and expanded its existing Cooperative Agreement (LAG-G-00-00-00036-00) with Partners. This new, two-year grant, entitled “Inter-American Democracy Network: Engaging Civil Society in the Americas,” will:

- Increase the capacity of Latin American and Caribbean civil society organizations to participate in, inform the agenda of and monitor the implementation of mandates resulting from the Summit of the Americas Process;
- Increase the capacity of Latin American and Caribbean civil society organizations to mobilize citizen participation in and monitoring and oversight of local and national government;
- Expand and strengthen the network of Latin American and Caribbean civil society organizations that encourage and assist civic activism at the local, national and regional levels.

II. QUARTERLY REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

During quarter from October 1 through December 31, 2003, Partners finalized the evaluation of the Participation and Democracy Subgrants Program, documenting project lessons learned and effective practices in a series of case studies. Moreover, Partners coordinated and participated in three activities related to the Summit of the Americas process, including the Americas Trade and Sustainable Development Forum (ATSDF) at the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) Ministerial meeting; a Mexico City regional civil society forum held in preparation for the Special Summit of the Americas; and the Special Summit of the Americas. Finally, The IADN launched its new website and news service and hosted a coordinating group meeting. These events and activities are summarized below:

Participation and Democracy Subgrants Program Follow-up

In 2001, Partners and the IADN designed the Participation and Democracy Grant Program to fund 20-25 projects led by civil society organizations in the areas of: 1) Education for Citizen Participation; 2) Advocacy; 3) Citizen Monitoring and Oversight, Accountability and Transparency; 4) Institutional Strengthening of Civil Society Organizations; 5) Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development; and 6) Conflict Prevention and Resolution.

Twenty-two finalists—and their over 60 collaborating organizations-- were selected for awards ranging from \$28,000 to \$75,000 and lasting from 12 to 18 months. The 22 projects have encouraged CSOs and citizens to become more proactive in advocating for transparency and accountability in local governments, and in participating in public deliberations, meetings and public resources monitoring. The impact of these projects on the lives of citizens has been impressive. The 22 projects resulted in more than 400 activities or public events with almost 15,000 participants and trained some 900 citizens in citizen rights and responsibilities and mechanisms for participation. 28,500 publications, press conferences, letters to the editor, newsletters, brochures, flyers, pamphlets and the like were held and distributed. Through print and media publicity, some 430,000 men, women and youth were reached with educational and outreach information. Moreover, thousands of citizens now have better access to public information as a result of projects, 75 civic groups were formed as a result of project activities, and 25 laws have been influenced over the course of the year.

During the reporting period, Partners finalized its evaluation and analysis of the Participation and Democracy subgrant program. After engaging in participatory evaluations with subgrantees, project methodologies, activities, impacts and lessons learned were recorded in twenty-two case studies. Twenty-one case studies are attached in Annex I for USAID's review and will soon be published on the IADN website. Partners recently received the completed evaluation on the remaining case study, "Strengthening Civil Society for Public Finance Monitoring" implemented by Instituto Pólis de Estudos, Formação e Assessoria em Políticas Sociais of Brazil. Partners will be incorporating the information into a final project case study to be made available on the IADN website.

Americas Trade and Sustainable Development Forum (ATSDF) – November 17-19, 2003

Partners coordinated a two-day workshop entitled “Trade, Democracy and Human Rights” at the Americas Trade and Sustainable Development Forum (ATSDF), which was held as part of the November FTAA Ministerial meeting. As the first civil society meeting to occur entirely within the security perimeter of a trade ministerial, the ATSDF presented a unique and historic opportunity for civil society to be engaged in trade negotiations. The Trade, Democracy and Human Rights Workshop convened panelists from thirteen organizations to focus on the following themes: Trade and National Sovereignty; Trade and Poverty; and Trade and Democratic Governance. Recommendations were discussed with all participants and presented to the trade ministers during a formal dialogue.

Mexico City Regional Civil Society Forum – November 24-25, 2003

Partners, along with the Government of Mexico, the Organization of American States (OAS) and select other CSOs, co-organized a regional forum in Mexico City, Mexico, entitled “Civil Society in the Hemispheric Integration Process within the Framework of the Special Summit of the Americas.” The objective of the forum was to offer a space for dialogue among civil society organizations, opinion leaders and academics in the region to discuss and formulate recommendations regarding the three themes of the Special Summit of the Americas (SSA) held on January 12-13, 2004 in Monterrey, Mexico. The three central themes of the SSA and those discussed at the forum were: economic growth with equity; social development; and democratic governance. The forum was attended by 85 participants representing 71 civil society organizations from 21 countries of the Americas.

Special Summit of the Americas – January 10-11, 2004

Working in conjunction with six other CSOs, Partners led the organization, coordination and facilitation of the civil society forum held as part of the Special Summit of the Americas in Monterrey, Mexico. “Advances and Challenges Facing Civil Society within the Framework of the Summits of the Americas” provided a space in which civil society organizations (CSOs) could work together to develop mechanisms for civil society participation in the Summit process and specify concrete actions for the Special Summit of the Americas. Discussions built on recommendations emanating from the “Civil Society in the Hemispheric Integration Process within the Framework of the Special Summit of the Americas” regional forum held from November 24-25, 2003. The civil society/academic forums included 143 pre-registered participants from 62 pre-registered CSOs.

Inter-American Democracy Network (IADN) Launches a New Website and News Service

The IADN Executive Secretariat developed and launched a new website that is more user-friendly, incorporates a new virtual classroom for virtual trainings and workshops, and provides important information on its services, functions, history and major thematic areas including decentralization, hemispheric processes, transparency and anti-corruption, political parties, and citizen participation. The redesigned website offers two comprehensive news services. The INFORID is a news service of and for civil society in the region. INFORID includes news

articles and releases published by IADN member CSOs that are in turn disseminated broadly to the press, CSOs, educational institutions, and others in the region. A news media monitoring service further provides daily updates from across the hemisphere on news items related to democracy, citizen participation, transparency, political reform, and citizen control. The IADN website and information about INFORID can be found at the following address:
<http://www.redinter.org>.

IADN Coordinating Group Meeting – December 3-4, 2003

Eight of the IADN Coordinating Group members convened in Buenos Aires with the Executive Secretariat and its two host organizations, Asociación Conciencia and Poder Ciudadano, for a two-day meeting that addressed and resolved many of the challenges and opportunities facing the Network. The meeting addressed the following topics: strengthening and sustainability of the network; defining IADN legal status; creating strategic alliances; designing a citizen participation index; agreeing on network intervention in institutional crises and conflicts; developing new membership criteria; creating an INFORID service; and building greater web and communication services. In order to address the myriad opportunities and challenges, institutional and otherwise, confronting the Network, Partners worked with the Secretariat and the CG to develop three board committees or working groups. These groups focus on: Governance; Fundraising; and Communications. The groups are responsible for advancing Network progress in each of these three core areas. Decisions made within the groups are then brought before the broader CG for review and final approval.

Annex

1. “Young Negotiators in Paraguay”- Transparencia Paraguay
2. “Education for Concerted Action” -Asociación para El Desarrollo de la Provincia Esparillat, Inc. (ADEPE)
3. “Transparency in the Governments of Two Municipalities of the State of Chiapas” - Alianza Cívica—Chiapas
4. “Citizen Participation for the Oversight of Local Government Functions” -Alianza Cívica—México, D.F. (Alianza-DF)
5. “Civil Society and Political Activism” -Centro de Estudios y Formación para el Ecodesarrollo (ALTER VIDA)
6. “Citizen Participation in the Departments of Cortes and Atlántida, Honduras” -Caritas de San Pedro Sula, Honduras
7. “Strengthening Access to Information and Citizen Participation in Mexican and Chilean Environmental Affairs” - Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental (CEMDA)
8. “Four Diplomas in Mediation and Negotiation” - Fundación Centro de Atención para Víctimas del Delito (CENAVID)
9. “Civic Action for the Environment” - Compañeros de las Americas Honduras- Vermont
10. “The Reform We All Want” - Ciudadanos por la Reforma (CPR)
11. “Institutionalizing Democratic Processes through Participatory Local Indigenous Governments” - Fundación Esquel—Ecuador
12. “Transparency in Central America” - Fundación Democracia y Desarrollo de Honduras (FDDH)

13. "Promotion and Strengthening of Citizen Participation Among Women "Women Decide""- Corporación Grupo de Apoyo Pedagógico
14. "Citizen Oversight of Judicial System in the Andean Region" - Instituto de Estudios Comparados en Ciencias Penales y Sociales—INECIP
15. "Strengthening Civil Society and the Summit of the Americas" - Corporación Participa
16. "Transparency in Mexican Government Contracting" - Fundacion Poder Ciudadano
17. "Democratic Transparency and Citizen Participation in Legislative Action" - Red por la Participación Ciudadana A.C.
18. "Citizen Vigilance and Social Monitoring of the National Reproductive and Sexual Health Program of Guatemala" - Red de Mujeres por la Construcción de la Paz
19. "Spreading Democratic Values through Mass Media" - Fundación Ricardo Boettner
- "Advocacy for the Development of a New Law of the Rondas Campesinas"- Asociación Servicios Educativos Rurales—SER

III. MAIN ACTIVITIES FOR THE QUARTER

Component I – Constructively Engage Civil Society in the Preparation, Accompaniment and Monitoring of the Summit of the Americas Process and Resulting Action Plan

During the quarter, Partners both facilitated and assisted in the completion of activities pertaining to each of the four objectives identified in this component under the 2003-2004 workplan submitted to USAID. Partners played a leading role both before and during the FTAA Trade Ministerial, forums preceding the Special Summit, and at the Special Summit of the Americas. Summit activities continue to be disseminated to a wide range of CSOs through the Civil Society Task Force and the INFORID news service. Finally, Partners worked closely with CSOs from throughout the region to examine and analyze the nature of CSO participation in the Summit process, identify untapped strategic areas for engagement, and plan strategically for the 2005 Summit in Argentina.

Analysis of Activities as related to the Quarter's Objectives

I. *Engaging LAC CSOs in Dialogue, Deliberation, and Interaction with Trade Ministers Negotiating the FTAA*

1.1 Americas Trade and Sustainable Development Forum

Helping to bring CSOs from across the hemisphere to the table with FTAA trade ministers, Partners, the IADN Executive Secretariat, and select IADN Coordinating Group members, including Gabriel Murillo of the Universidad de los Andes, Colombia and Alejandro Laos, of Asociación SER, Peru, coordinated a two-day workshop entitled “Trade, Democracy and Human Rights” at the Americas Trade and Sustainable Development Forum, which was held as part of the November FTAA Ministerial meeting. The Trade, Democracy and Human Rights Workshop – one of nine ATSDF workshops - focused on education, discussion, deliberation and recommendations. This workshop convened three panels focusing on Trade and National Sovereignty, Trade and Poverty, and Trade and Democratic Governance. Each panel began with participant presentations and followed with a moderated discussion incorporating both participants and others in attendance. The following thirteen organizations from throughout the hemisphere participated in the panels:

- The Trade and National Sovereignty panel featured presentations by Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders, the Center for Policy Analysis on Trade and Health (CPATH) and the Florida Association of Volunteer Action in the Caribbean and the Americas (FAVACA). The Canadian Foundation for the Americas (FOCAL) served as the moderator for this panel.
- The Trade and Poverty panel included presentations by the Center for Global Development, Iniciativa CID, Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA), Asociación SER and the Venezuela Women's Bank. The Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México moderated the panel.
- The Trade and Democratic Governance panel included presentations by Freedom House and Transparency International-USA. The Esquel Foundation moderated this panel.

The Public Participation and Access Workshop—coordinated by IADN member organizations University of Tulane and Corporacion Participa of Chile-- and the Corruption and Transparency Workshop—coordinated by Transparency International-- merged with the Trade, Democracy and Human Rights Workshop for a second day of joint sessions. During the second day, the Trade, Democracy and Human Rights Workshop participants analyzed the dominant theme emerging from the first day - potential effects that a FTAA may have on historically excluded and marginalized groups – and presented recommendations to the entire ATSDF. These recommendations, along with those from the other eight tents, were presented at a formal meeting between civil society and trade ministers. IADN Executive Secretariat Gustavo Gamallo, along with select other IADN member organizations, presented recommendations to and engaged in dialogue with Ministers. Documents articulating some of the points raised by the civil society representatives were circulated.

On a related note, Partners staff hosted a meeting in October with a delegation of Brazilian congressional staffers-- mostly chiefs of staff of Brazilian Deputies and/or Senators. The delegation was interested in Partners' and the IADN's work related to trade, and specifically the Free Trade Area of the Americas. Partners' staff gave an overview of Partners involvement in the Americas Free Trade and Sustainable Development Forum in Miami in November and impressions of U.S. public opinion about trade and summit issues.

The Trade, Democracy and Human Rights Workshop agenda, summary and recommendations can be found in the annex. The annex also includes the general ATSDF agenda, two Partners/IADN press releases, the Ministerial Declaration, and a *Miami Herald* news article titled "Requests from an oft-ignored corner" citing a quote by Gustavo Gamallo.

II. *Engaging LAC CSOs in the Special Summit of the Americas in 2004 and the 2005 Summit*

2.1 Mexico City Civil Society Follow-Up Strategy Meeting

On November 21-22, the Internal Workshop on the results of the Follow-up Strategy for Civil Society Implementation of the Quebec Plan of Action was held in Mexico City, Mexico. The objective of the Workshop was to review the progress achieved in the follow-up process for the fulfillment of the mandates of the Quebec Plan of Action, in order to disseminate and have an impact on the results obtained and the proposals drafted at the national, regional and hemispheric level. Of the mandates considered, the following themes were determined to be priorities areas for deliberation and inclusion at the Special Summit of the Americas: access to information; freedom of expression; strengthening of civil society; and participation of civil society in hemispheric processes. The Workshop was attended by representatives of Civil Society Organizations from the 20 countries where the follow-up process is taking place. These proposals were then submitted at the regional forum "Civil Society in the Hemispheric Integration Process within the Framework of the Special Summit of the Americas" held in Mexico City, Mexico on November 24-25. Moreover, they were presented at the December Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) meeting.

The proposals presented are the result of a project implemented by civil society organizations in 20 countries from throughout the Americas, which seeks to educate citizens and CSOs of the region about the Summit of the Americas process and the commitments made by governments during this process, highlighting how these commitments are linked to countries' development and how they affect the lives of their citizens. The project is coordinated by IADN members Corporacion Participa of Chile, University of the Andes, Colombia, FOCAL, Canada, and the IADN and co-financed by the IDB, CAF, the Canadian Government, the OAS and Partners of the Americas/IADN. The project has collected information via a structured questionnaire using quantitative and qualitative indicators that measure the degree of implementation of the access to information, freedom of expression, strengthening of civil society, access to justice and independence of the judiciary, and decentralization and strengthening of local governments mandates from the Quebec City Plan of Action, providing for comparison of results between countries.

2.2 Mexico City Regional Civil Society Forum

Together with the Mexican Government, the OAS Summits of the Americas Secretariat, the Coordinadora Regional de Investigaciones Económicas y Sociales (CRIES), Alianza Cívica, the Canadian Foundation for the Americas (FOCAL), and Asociación Latinoamericana de Organizaciones de Promoción (ALOP), Partners and the IADN co-sponsored a regional forum to bring together civil society for the development of concrete recommendations in preparation for the December Summit Implementation Group Meeting and the January Special Summit of the Americas. The forum, entitled "Civil Society in the Hemispheric Integration Process within the Framework of the Special Summit of the Americas," was held on November 24-25, 2003 in Mexico City, Mexico.

The objective of the forum was to offer a space for dialogue among civil society organizations, opinion leaders and academics in the region to discuss and formulate recommendations regarding the three themes of the Special Summit of the Americas, including economic growth with equity, social development, and democratic governance.

The forum was attended by 85 participants representing 71 civil society organizations from 21 countries of the Americas. The forum also was attended by six governmental representatives from Mexico, the United States, and Canada, seven representatives from international organizations such as the OAS, Interamerican Development Bank, and World Bank.

The recommendations reflected priorities identified by civil society with the purpose of supporting the governments in their efforts to facilitate concrete action towards economic growth with equity, social development, and democratic governance in the hemisphere.

The Mexico City regional forum agenda and recommendations are included in the annex.

2.3 XXXIII Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) Meeting

In preparation for the Special Summit, Partners, the IADN and other CSOs presented the recommendations from the Mexico City Regional Civil Society Forum and the preliminary

results from the Civil Society Follow-Up Strategy for the Québec City Plan of Action at the XXXIII Meeting of the SIRG on December 8, 2003, in Washington, DC. IADN Executive Secretariat, Gustavo Gamallo, presented results from the Mexico City Forum before National Summit Coordinators. Participating in the December SIRG meeting - the second ever to be public – Partners and the IADN gained additional space to contribute to the Summit process and received important information about the process itself, such as the status of implementation and the drafting of the Plan of Action.

2.4 Special Summit of the Americas

Partners and the IADN Executive Secretariat, along with Corporación PARTICIPA, Alianza Cívica, Canadian Foundation for the Americas (FOCAL), Tulane University's Institute for Environmental Law and Policy (Tulane), Asociación Latinoamérica de Organizaciones de Participación (ALOP), and Coordinadora Regional de Investigaciones Económicas y Sociales (CRIES), coordinated the civil society forum at the Special Summit of the Americas in Monterrey, Nuevo León, Mexico, on January 10, 2004. The forum, entitled "Advances and Challenges Facing Civil Society within the Framework of the Summits of the Americas," brought together 143 pre-registered participants from 62 pre-registered CSOs.

The civil society forum at the Special Summit based its discussions, in part, on recommendations developed at the Mexico City regional civil society forum held in November 2003, and presented at the XXXIII meeting of the Summit Implementation Review Group in Washington, DC, in December. Among its objectives, the Monterrey civil society forum aimed to establish concrete actions that governments could take to fulfill previous Summit commitments. Participants also affirmed the importance of incorporating new CSOs and began developing specific strategies for strengthening and augmenting civil society participation in the Summits of the Americas process, specifically in regard to the 2005 Argentina Summit.

Partners and the IADN then participated in a dialogue moderated by the Organization of America States (OAS) on January 11, 2004, in which key recommendations from the Monterrey civil society forum were presented to foreign ministers. CSO representatives again called for the establishment of a permanent space for civil society in the Summit process in the form of an ongoing consultative dialogue among civil society, national governments, and the OAS.

Following these events, Partners began a process of working closely with a number of CSOs from the region to: reflect upon and analyze recent and long-term CSO participation in the Summit process; assess new, strategic opportunities that remain untapped; and devise a comprehensive strategy for CSO participation leading to and at the 2005 Argentina Summit.

The annex includes the agenda for the civil society forum, the recommendations, and the Declaration of Nuevo León. Additionally, Partners' press release and event summary are contained in the annex.

III. *Building CSO Awareness and Understanding of the Summit Process and Action Plans*

3.1 Engaging Civil Society in Dialogue and Analysis of the Summit Process through the Civil Society Task Force

In December, Partners awarded the Esquel Group Foundation (EGF) a 22-month grant for the continuation of Civil Society Task Force activities in Washington and potential replication in other countries in Latin America. Over the term of this grant, Partners will work jointly with EGF in implementing the Task Force. The Task Force will host eleven sessions per year in Washington on topics related to the Summit of the Americas Process, while seeking additional resources to replicate the Task Force model in select countries in Latin America, potentially including Brazil, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador and Argentina, among several Central American countries where there are IADN members present.

The Washington-based monthly meetings gather a regular audience that varies from 30 to over 90 representatives of NGOs, academe, international organizations, labor unions, and US and other government agencies. Participants are expected to continue to be representatives of Washington-based civil society organizations, international organizations (World Bank, IDB, OAS, and PAHO), US government agencies, interested embassies and the general public. The Task Force will make every effort to continually expand its list of over 450 invitees and to take advantage of its institutional relationships to invite distinguished speakers to its sessions. To this end, Partners will engage in a strategic planning process with the Esquel Group Foundation to maximize the space that the Task Force provides to engage civil society, government and international organizations in substantive dialogue.

The subcontract agreement with the Esquel Group Foundation, the agenda for the December 2003 meeting, entitled “Update on the Free Trade Association of the Americas (FTAA) Process,” and the January 2004 meeting entitled “Is Anyone Listening?: Civil Society Participation in the Summits of the Americas After Monterrey,” can be found in the annex.

3.2 IADN Dissemination of Information on the Summit Process

Among the IADN’s myriad activities to engage civil society participation in and understanding of the Summit Process, the Network writes and disseminates a series of articles on the Summit Process; posts information on and results from the various regional civil society fora it has co-coordinated; and engages CSOs on a regional level in discussions and dialogue on the Summit.

During the reporting period, the IADN launched INFORID, its civil society news service. INFORID has published a series of articles in Spanish, English and Portuguese covering the Special Summit of the Americas. An INFORID article highlighting civil society recommendations from the Special Summit is attached in the annex.

Moreover, the Foundation for Peace and Democracy (FUNPADEM), an IADN Coordinating Group member in Costa Rica, published a report titled “From Quebec to Nuevo León: The Results of the Special Summit of the Americas,” which can also be found in the annex. Using this as a catalyst for discussion, FUNPADEM coordinated and hosted a regional roundtable dialogue on the Summit Process and outcomes from the recent Special Summit. Please see the attached article highlighting this event.

IV. Mobilizing Civil Society Participation in Monitoring the 2001 Quebec Summit Action Plan Implementation

4.1 Civil Society Follow-Up Strategy for the Québec City Plan of Action

As previously noted, organizations from 20 countries in the region are implementing a project that seeks to educate citizens and CSOs about the Summit of the Americas and the commitments made by governments to strengthen democracy. In October, Partners provided the necessary funding for Corporación Participa to carry out the following activities: convene the November 21-22, 2003, Mexico City meeting to discuss preliminary results; extend this project to Colombia, Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador; and write and publish materials on the follow-up project for general distribution. Partners' funding has been augmented by funding from the Andean Development Corporation (CAF).

The Follow-Up Strategy has collected information using quantitative and qualitative indicators that measure the degree of implementation of the access to information, freedom of expression, strengthening of civil society, access to justice and independence of the judiciary, and decentralizations and strengthening of local governments mandates from the Quebec City Plan of Action, providing for comparison of results between countries.

This strategy consists in the design and implementation of mechanisms that allow for follow-up to confirm advances, and support the implementation of the Plan of Action in themes related to the strengthening of democracy, specifically: 1) access to information; 2) freedom of expression; 3) local government and decentralization; 4) strengthening civil society; and 5) reform of judicial power and access to justice. The results of this project will be available soon.

On a related note, Partners sought and garnered a one-year, \$85,000 grant from the OSI Development Foundation for the implementation of the Follow-up methodology in the U.S.

The subcontract agreement between Partners and Corporación Participa and Participa's first narrative report, including annexes, can be found in the annex to this document.

Annex

1. Trade, Democracy and Human Rights Workshop Agenda
2. Trade, Democracy and Human Rights Workshop Summary and Recommendations
3. ATSDF General Agenda
4. Two Partners/IADN Press Releases
5. FTAA Ministerial Declaration
6. *Miami Herald* news article: "Requests from an oft-ignored corner"
7. Follow-up Strategy for Civil Society Implementation of the Quebec Plan of Action Preliminary Results
8. Mexico City Regional Forum Agenda
9. Mexico City Regional Forum Proposals
10. Special Summit of the Americas (SSA) Civil Society Forum Agenda

11. SSA Civil Society Forum Recommendations
12. Declaration of Nuevo León
13. Partners' SSA Civil Society Forum Press Release
14. Partners' SSA Civil Society Forum Event Summary
15. Subcontract Agreement with the Esquel Group Foundation
16. Agenda for the December 2003 and January 2004 Civil Society Task Force Meeting
17. INFORID article highlighting civil society recommendations from the SSA
18. "From Quebec to Nuevo León: The Results of the Special Summit of the Americas"
19. Subcontract agreement between Partners and Corporación Participa
20. Participa's Summit Follow-Up Narrative Report

Component II - Mobilize and Sustain Citizen Participation in Informing, Accompanying and Monitoring Anti-Corruption and Transparency Efforts

During the reporting period, Partners laid the foundation for increasing the capacity of Latin American and Caribbean civil society organizations to mobilize citizen participation in the monitoring and oversight of local and national governments. Activities have focused on developing formal agreements between Partners, the IADN and regional and hemispheric associations, conducting an informal diagnostic of the state of rule of law and the environment for citizen participation in the region, and developing a Transparency/Anti-Corruption Grants Program Advisory-Selection Committee. Results have been encouraging. Partners successfully met with three organizations and held tele-conferences with two others to investigate possibilities for future collaboration. Follow-up meetings are scheduled for the next quarter. In addition, pre-existing tools and research are being collected and evaluated to finalize the regional diagnostic. Partners will use its findings to design a grant program that ensures maximum results for the investment of financial and technical resources. Finally, Partners has confirmed the majority of the participants in the Advisory-Selection Committee.

Analysis of Activities as related to the Quarter's Objectives

I. Collaboration formalized between the IADN, regional and hemispheric associations, and municipal and local government officials and organizations

During this period, Partners and the IADN Executive Secretary, Gustavo Gamallo, began formalizing agreements for sustained collaboration with the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Federación de Municipios del Istmo Centroamericano (FEMICA), Federación Latinoamericana de Ciudades, Municipios y Asociaciones (FLACMA), and Transparency International-US.

1.1. ICMA

During the quarter, Partners staff and Gustavo Gamallo, Executive Secretary of the IADN, met with Antonio Iskandar, LAC Forum Director of ICMA's International Programs. As a result of discussions with ICMA, Partners and the IADN have committed to documenting and disseminating to municipal associations the effective practices and lessons learned from joint local government-civil society initiatives on transparency and anti-corruption. Moreover, Partners and the IADN have agreed to coordinate the participation of representatives of the municipal administrations and the implementing CSOs to present their project methodology and outcomes at the annual FEMICA, FLACMA and LAC Forum conferences. To date, Partners and the IADN have identified a participatory budgeting project in Rovira, Colombia and a transparency in contracting municipal waste services project in Moron, Argentina that can serve as model projects.

In addition, ICMA agreed to participate as a committee member in the design and selection process of the IADN's Transparency/Anti Corruption Grants Program. Committee members will be asked to review and tailor the Grants Program's request for proposals, including the terms of

reference and project objectives. Committee members will also review the proposals received by Partners and select projects for financing.

Meeting agreements are attached for review.

1.2. UNDP

In addition to the meeting with ICMA, Gustavo Gamallo and Partner staff went to New York and met with UNDP representatives involved in LAC Regional Strategic Planning. UNDP staff presented possibilities for collaboration with the IADN especially in local government and civil society collaborative efforts. Specific program areas were identified for potential collaboration including: a) disseminating information about the UNDP's report on and debates concerning democracy in the region; b) submitting examples of IADN projects and best practices to the UNDP's Feria Virtual; c) engaging Partners and the IADN in the UNDP's Community Based Initiatives program; and d) cross-posting information about relevant Partners/IADN and UNDP activities and programs.

In addition, Partners and the IADN invited the UNDP to participate as a committee member in the design and project selection process of the IADN's Transparency/Anti Corruption Grants Program. The duties of the committee members are explained above.

Meeting notes are attached for review

1.3. FEMICA

During the quarter, Partners and the IADN established contact and began the collaborative process with Patricia Duran de Jager, Executive Director of FEMICA. As a result of this initial contact, FEMICA invited Partners and the IADN to participate in the XIII Asamblea General Ordinaria de Alcaldes y Autoridades Electas de Centroamérica (Thirteen General Assembly of Mayors and Elected Officials of Central America), which will take place in Tegucigalpa, Honduras at the end of January. During the Assembly, Partners will make a presentation on the IADN and civil society-local government initiatives to FEMICA's newly-elected board. This presentation will introduce the Partners and IADN to local government officials, including the IADN's objectives and examples of successful, joint civil society-government collaborations in Latin America. Moreover, Participation in the Assembly will provide a face-to-face space to meet with Ms. Duran de Jager and FEMICA's board to explore options for formal collaborations with the Network.

Invitation is attached for review.

1.4. FLACMA

Similarly, Partners and the IADN contacted Jaime Torres, Executive Director of FLACMA. As a result of this contact, Mr. Torres invited Partners and the IADN to attend the First Congress of Municipalities in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia on March 24-26. FLACMA requested that Partners and the IADN nominate panelists to participate in one of the Congress' twelve thematic

panels and examine other avenues for participation. Partners and the IADN proposed two actions: a) participating in the Congress' session on Public Services by presenting successful, joint civil society-government projects and b) managing a booth at the Congress' fair. As mentioned above, Partners and the IADN proposed the following two examples of civil society-government collaboration: a participatory budgeting project in Rovira, Colombia and a transparency in contracting municipal waste services in Moron, Argentina. Partners is awaiting FLACMA's response to the proposed nomination.

1.5. Transparency International-US

Finally, Partners met with Transparency International-US to investigate possible areas for formal collaboration. Partners and the IADN have invited Transparency International to become a member of the design and selection committee for the IADN's Transparency/Anti Corruption Grants Program. In addition, Partners, the IADN and Transparency International recognized overlap in their memberships; most of Transparency International's country chapters are members of the IADN. The IADN agreed to research its membership and propose local organizations to Transparency International in countries without a local Transparency International chapter. Partners has confirmed a follow-up meeting with the director of Transparency International-LAC when she is in Washington, DC next quarter.

Meeting notes are attached for review.

II. IADN Interventions in Transparency and Anti-Corruption Complementary to Existing Initiatives

As a first step in the design of the IADN's Transparency/Anti Corruption Grants Program, Partners began researching existing diagnostics and studies on corruption in Latin America. Partners is in the process of analyzing and organizing existing tools and diagnostics performed by Transparency International, UNDP, World Bank Institute, IADN members, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), and others. This analysis will give Partners a detailed picture of the problems related to corruption and transparency confronting Latin America. In addition, the existing studies will guide the development of the IADN's Transparency/Anti Corruption Grants Program by highlighting the government institutions most in need of transparency projects, such as the judicial branch, municipal governments, and/or legislative bodies. Partners has complemented this research with ongoing dialogue with representatives of TI, UNDP, OAS and others regarding the design of the program.

III. Financial and Technical Resources Provided to Network Members to Implement Transparency/Anti-Corruption Initiatives

Initial steps were taken to form the grants program advisory-selection committee. The committee will be comprised of bilingual representatives from seven organizations, all of which have recognized expertise in the areas of anti-corruption, transparency, local government and judicial reform in Latin America and the Caribbean. Through telephone communication, e-mail and meetings, Partners and the IADN identified selection committee candidates and invited them to

participate as committee members. A summary of committee members' roles and responsibilities, along with a request for confirmation, was sent to representatives from ICMA, UNDP, USAID, Transparency International-LAC, and Centro de Estudios de Justicia de las Americas (CEJA). At the date of this writing, ICMA, USAID, and Transparency International had confirmed their participation in the Partners/IADN advisory-selection committee.

Committee members will be expected to attend two meetings in Washington DC and review a maximum of ten project proposals (maximum 15 pages each). The first meeting of the selection committee is tentatively scheduled for late February in Washington, D.C. Before this meeting, members will receive a draft of Partners' and the IADN's request for proposals and the program's terms of reference. Partners will request that all members come to the February meeting prepared to participate in a dynamic exchange of ideas and provide useful feedback for the grant program design and selection process. From March through May 2004, Partners and the IADN will publish the terms of reference, receive and review proposals, and distribute selected proposals to committee members for their review. During May 2004, members will meet again to discuss the proposals and select project finalists. Once finalists have been chosen, Partners will distribute funds and monitor the projects from June 2004 through June 2005. During project implementation, advisory/selection committee members can elect to receive up-to-date information on project outcomes, successes and lessons learned.

Advisory-Selection Committee Summary attached for review.

Annex

1. Meeting Notes ICMA, Partners of the Americas and IADN
2. Meeting Notes UNDP, Partners of the Americas and IADN
3. Invitation to participate in the XIII Asamblea General Ordinaria de Alcaldes y Autoridades Electas de Centroamericano, FEMICA
4. Meeting Notes with Transparency International-USA
5. IADN and Partners of the Americas Transparency and Anti-Corruption Small Grants Program Advisory-Selection Committee Summary

Component III – Consolidate and Strengthen the Network for Sustainability

During the past quarter, Partners supported the new IADN Secretariat in areas such as increasing membership, ensuring long-term financial sustainability, and extending and enhancing the IADN's communication strategy. The IADN made significant strides in its e-learning capabilities, governance structure, and launched a completely redesigned website featuring its INFORID news service. The following section outlines these activities and other initiatives undertaken in the last quarter.

Analysis of Activities as related to the Quarter's Objectives

I. Establishing the New IADN Executive Secretariat

1.1 Executive Secretariat Office Opened and Staff Hired

In early October, the Executive Secretariat was transferred from the Esquel Foundation of Ecuador to Poder Ciudadano Foundation/Asociación Conciencia of Buenos Aires, Argentina. The new Executive Secretary, Gustavo Gamallo, with the support of the IADN hosting institutions Poder Ciudadano and Asociación Conciencia, opened the new Executive Secretariat office and hired full and part-time staff including a Technical Secretary, Administrative Assistant, Web Content Assistant, INFORID Assistant, and a Virtual Campus Assistant. Likewise during the quarter, the Secretariat purchased all necessary equipment and infrastructure for the functioning of the office.

1.2. IADN Executive Secretary Workplan Developed

In early October, Partners worked with the Executive Secretariat and its hosting organizations to engage in an annual strategic planning process and develop a comprehensive, one-year workplan that conforms to the general objectives laid out in Partners' workplan to USAID: participation in hemispheric processes; transparency and anti-corruption – strengthening the decentralization process; and IADN sustainability. The workplan lists activities, expected results, indicators, responsible parties, and provides a timeline for implementation of each activity.

The workplan can be found in the annex.

II. Building the IADN Coordinating Group's Capacity to Govern the Network

2.1. December Coordinating Group Meeting

On December 3-4, the IADN Executive Secretariat organized and hosted its first Coordinating Group (CG) meeting, bringing together CG members for two days of discussion, planning and decision-making in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Coordinating Group members that participated included: Laurie Cole, FOCAL (Canada); Miriam Díaz Santana, PARTICIPACIÓN CIUDADANA (Dominican Republic); Elida Cecconi, GADIS (Argentina); Andrea Sanhueza and Catalina Delpiano, CORPORACIÓN PARTICIPA (Chile); Alejandro Laos, Asociación

Servicios Educativos Rurales SER (Peru); Rosangela Torrezan Giembinsky, Movimiento Voto Consciente (Brazil); Gabriel Murillo, Universidad de los Andes, DECIPOL (Colombia); Cynthia Smith, Partners of the Americas (United States); and Silvia Guardé, Carlos March, Gustavo Gamallo and Nora Arzeno, SERID (Argentina).

The meeting addressed the following topics: strengthening the network for its sustainability; refining and updating the IADN legal status and statutes; creating strategic alliances; designing a citizen participation index; agreeing on network intervention in institutional crises and conflicts; developing new membership criteria; and building greater web and communication services.

During the course of the meeting, the Coordinating Group approved the following actions:

- Coordinating Group Governance Committee members will review the existing legal status and organizational statutes of the Network and draft recommended changes to both. All changes will be approved by the greater body of the CG and the Secretariat will timeline the transfer of legal status from Ecuador to Argentina for the first month of the coming quarter. Statutes will follow shortly thereafter.
- The CG approved the pursuit of collaboration between the IADN and the Inter-American Political Parties Forum. Moreover, the Secretariat was charged with seeking additional funding for building linkages and increased dialogue between political parties and civil society.
- CG member Corporacion Participa presented the results of the IADN-funded citizen participation index pilot project conducted in Chile. Building on the experiences and lessons learned in Chile, CG members approved the design and application of a regional citizen participation index.
- Coordinating Group members discussed in detail the nature of Network intervention in institutional crises and conflicts. CG members expressed concern over engaging in actions that may potentially politicize the network and agreed to protocol for Network action/reaction.
- Coordinating Group members approved the design and implementation of a membership fee for all current and new IADN members. This fee will be introduced in the second quarter of 2004, after broad outreach to current and potential members. Specifically, the CG approved a tiered dues schedule based on an organization's operating budget. Members that do not pay their dues would remain a part of the network but lose all voting privileges and ability to compete for available funding. To this end, Coordinating Group members agreed to contact members within their geographical areas, host regional roundtables and meetings for existing and potential IADN members, and share meeting participant lists with the Secretariat.

- The CG approved the implementation of the proposed civil society news service, INFORID. Moreover, a basic code of ethics and operating criteria were established for the INFORID news service.
- CG members approved the redesign of the IADN website, to be launched in January 2004. Moreover, CG members agreed to work with the Secretariat to develop a comprehensive communications strategy. To this end, three CG working groups or committees were created for governance, fundraising and communications.

The notes from the Coordinating Group meeting and the INFORID Ethics Code can be found in the annex.

2.2. Mobilize and Orient Coordinating Group Committees

In order to address the myriad opportunities and challenges, institutional and otherwise, confronting the Network, Partners worked with the Secretariat and the CG to develop three board committees or working groups. These groups focus on: Governance; Fundraising; and Communications. The groups are responsible for advancing Network progress in each of these three core areas. Decisions made within the groups are then brought before the broader CG for review and final approval.

Committee assignments are contained in the attached Coordinating Group meeting minutes.

III. Developing a Long Term Fundraising Plan and Increasing IADN Membership

3.1. Network Diagnostic as a Basis for a Membership Drive

One of the first actions of the new IADN Executive Secretary entailed analyzing the results of a comprehensive on-line survey. The survey sought to determine: 1) CSO members' areas of expertise; 2) areas in which members require training and technical support; and 3) topics on which members would be able to offer training and/or sharing of best practices. Forty-eight members participated in the survey. According to the survey results, the following percentage of members carry out work on these thematic issues: 79 percent in human rights; 73 percent in economic growth and development; 26 percent in drug awareness; 80 percent in communications and culture; 70 percent in gender; 81 percent in youth; 25 percent in alcoholism; 84 percent in transparency and anti-corruption; 40 percent in labor rights; 81 percent in ecology and the environment; 98 percent in citizen participation; 42 percent in indigenous rights; 60 percent in rural development; 80 percent in education; 52 percent in tolerance and diversity; 61 percent in health; 59 percent in citizen security; 79 percent in community development; 91 percent in democracy and elections; and 56 percent in child rights. Further, an overwhelming majority (83 percent) were interested in receiving training on transparency and citizen oversight.

The Secretariat simultaneously engaged in a comprehensive review of IADN member participation and evaluated mechanisms for better communication with its membership. The Secretariat has embarked upon an ambitious project to update and expand the IADN's

membership base. To achieve this, the Secretariat has begun to contact all of the IADN's current members to verify contact information and areas of expertise. Coordinating Group members have also committed to personally contacting organizations in each country in order to confirm contact information, encourage more active Network participation, and detail network services and upcoming opportunities. In doing so, the Secretariat and Coordinating Group are laying the groundwork for implementation of the new membership fee and membership expansion.

3.2. Framework for the Implementation of Membership Fees

One of the many components necessary to guarantee the sustainability of the IADN is the design and implementation of a flexible membership fee system that allows both well-endowed civil society organizations and those with more limited finances to be IADN members. In order to gauge the disposition of IADN members to pay an annual fee, the aforementioned diagnostic asked respondents whether they would be willing to pay such a fee; 62 percent signaled that they would. As a result, the Coordinating Group approved the Secretariat's proposal for a three-tiered system for membership dues based on an organization's annual operating budget. Annual IADN membership dues will be \$300, \$200 or \$100, depending upon an organization's operating budget. The Secretariat is currently evaluating the fee structure of similar organizations to determine the budget range applicable for each of the three membership fees. Friends of the IADN, non-civil society organizations such as individuals or representatives of the private sector, are entitled to partial membership benefits and will pay a \$50 membership fee. In order to maintain an ample membership base, organizations that do not pay their dues will lose their voting rights and ability to compete for financial or technical resources that may be available through the Network. The mid-April Coordinating Group meeting will establish an exact date for the implementation of membership fees.

3.3. Implementation of Virtual Courses

The IADN is aware that new courses for teaching and training must be developed based on the concept of distance learning so that distant and diverse audiences can participate in the myriad opportunities for training and technical support offered through the Network. To that end, the IADN has and will continue to place significant emphasis on establishing a virtual center that includes opportunities for online courses, a comprehensive e-library containing a diverse grouping of publications and other materials, and the like. During the quarter, the IADN launched its new virtual center, building on the successful technical platform developed by *Fundación Poder Ciudadano*, one of the Secretariat's two hosting organizations.

In July and August of 2003, *Fundación Poder Ciudadano* launched and completed a highly successful e-learning course on transparent business transactions. This course is now available through the IADN website to all members. Moreover, it is serving as a model for the development of additional virtual courses.

To that end, and as mentioned in the previous quarterly report, the IADN Secretariat and the *Escuela Virtual de Gobernabilidad* of Catalunya, Spain, signed an agreement to launch the IADN's first Virtual Course for Civil Society Organizations. A Scholarship Fund was

established with US\$13,500, which will help pay half of the tuition for 25 members of the IADN who want to enroll in the course. The course has three main objectives: 1) provide the students a conceptual framework about civil society in general, and in particular, about civil society in Latin America; 2) study the strategic importance of civil society when interacting with politics, mass media and academic institutions; and 3) motivate students and participants in such a way that they will involve themselves in the follow-up and analysis of civil society processes.

Despite some setbacks during the past quarter, the 16-week course is still scheduled to begin in the spring of 2004. One of the course designers, Gabriel Murillo of the *Universidad de los Andes*, could no longer participate in this project, and Manuel Cantó of the *Univesidad Autónoma de México*, the other professor leading curriculum development, was unable to devote the necessary time. However, as of recently, a curriculum outline has been developed and professors have been assigned to each of the course's four components.

- Lesson 1: Why is Civil Society Important for Public Life? – Marcos Villamán
- Lesson 2: Institutions and Governance – Marcelo Lasagna
- Lesson 3: Civil Society in the Modern World – Gonzalo de la Maza
- Lesson 4: Influencing Public Policies – Manuel Cantó

The course curriculum, bibliography, and the curriculum vitae of Marcos Villamán and Gonzalo de la Maza are included in the annex.

In a related effort, the Secretariat has begun the digitization of a course on democratic leadership. Once digitized, this course, which was designed and tested by Secretariat host Asociacion Conciencia, will form part of the digital library being created for the Network's Virtual Center. The IADN is also developing additional curriculum specific to transparency, the theme of the upcoming subgrant program. To build on the existing e-learning framework the IADN has developed over the quarter, the IADN Secretariat also submitted a \$52,276 proposal through IADN Coordinating Group member Laurie Cole of FOCAL to the Institute for Connectivity in the Americas (ICA) seeking funding for the second phase of the E-Collective Action Project. This one-year, hemispheric-wide initiative would cover themes related to anti-corruption and democracy strengthening. Activities would include: creation of a virtual classroom that would both provide learning manuals and a space for discussion and interaction; design of a virtual best practices forum; and standardization of new tools that can be used by NGOs for monitoring public policies and fighting corruption.

A copy of the IADN's proposal to ICA is included in the annex.

3.4. IADN Development of Formal Collaborations

During the reporting period, the IADN Executive Secretariat Gustavo Gamallo met and explored potential collaboration with the following organizations/associations: the Inter-American Network on Decentralization, Local Government and Citizen Participation (RIAD); the World Bank; the Organization of American States (OAS); International City/Country Management Association (ICMA); the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB); the British Council; the

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); the United Nations Development Program (UNDP); Freedom House; the Argentine Ministry of Social Development; the Argentine National Center of Community Organizations; and the Argentine Under-Secretariat for Institutional Reform.

Building on a meeting between the Executive Secretary and representatives of UNDP in New York, the Secretariat met with the UNDP in Argentina. As a result, the UNDP and the IADN are in the initial stages of a formal alliance in which the IADN would assist in implementing workshops in eighteen countries that bring together political parties, CSOs, academic institutions, and press. The workshops would provide a space for debate and reflection in response to the UNDP's recent "Report on the Development of Democracy in Latin America." As a preliminary step, the UNDP/Argentina has offered to provide financing for a joint meeting between UNDP staff and IADN Coordinating Group members in late February.

Following meetings between Partners, the Secretariat and Freedom House, the Secretariat has developed a concept paper to work with Freedom House in instituting an "Americas Democracy Watch." The project would utilize the IADN's vast hemispheric CSO network as observers in evaluating the institutional development of democracy throughout the region. Periodic reports detailing the state of democracy in each country and an annual region-wide report would be published. Further, an early warning alert system would help identify emerging threats to democracy.

Meeting notes from the UN and ICMA meetings are included in the annex for Component II. The IADN's quarterly narrative report and its second annex are included in the annex for this section. Both the narrative and IADN annex contain additional information on meetings held during the past quarter. Further, the IADN's "Americas Democracy Watch" concept paper for Freedom House is attached.

IV. Expanding IADN Outreach and Visibility

4.1. IADN Brochure

As part of its broader outreach strategy, the Executive Secretariat, together with the Communications Committee of the Coordinating Group, has developed text for a new IADN brochure. The brochure, to be published in early February, offers an overview of the IADN's structure, vision, mission, history, objectives and five action items. These action items include: transparency and anti-corruption; hemispheric processes; decentralization and local governance strengthening; political parties; and building citizen participation. A membership form and contact information also comprises part of the brochure. The brochure will be printed in Spanish, English and Portuguese.

The draft text is included in the annex.

V. Disseminating News on Civil Society and IADN Activities

5.1. INFORID Launched

As previously noted, INFORID, the IADN's civil society news service, was launched in this past quarter. INFORID publishes and disseminates broadly in Spanish, English and Portuguese news articles and releases written by IADN member CSOs. The articles are sent to press, CSOs and other institutions throughout the region. Moreover, INFORID news articles can be accessed via the IADN's website and occasional articles will also be sent out in email format to the entire IADN membership base. This is a free service that builds on the successful experience of Poder Ciudadano's *Infocívica*, a civil society news agency for NGOs in Argentina.

To ensure its broad dissemination to the media, the Secretariat has compiled a database of journalists from throughout the hemisphere and beyond. The database is grouped by country and news organization. With this database, the INFORID news service will be able to target news pieces to specific journalists, countries and news organizations.

Further, in order to provide IADN members and those interested in the work of the IADN with timely, relevant and accurate news pertaining to the IADN's objectives, the Executive Secretariat has enlisted Global News of Argentina to provide daily clippings from major newspapers around the hemisphere. The clippings will contain the full text of articles published each day in Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela and the USA on the following themes: democracy, citizen participation, transparency, political reform, and citizen control. The clippings will also monitor whether INFORID news items have been picked up by major newspapers. In addition to providing timely information, this service should encourage IADN website visitors to return to the site more frequently. Daily clippings are available under the "Daily Democracy" section of the website.

The following sample INFORID news articles are included in the annex:

- "INEA from Peru Created International Corruption Measurement Methodology"
- "The Voto Consciente Movement from Brazil Released a Report on Civil Society"
- "Civil Society Organizations Submitted Valuable Proposals to the Ministers at the Special Summit of the Americas"

A printed version of the journalist database for Argentina, Paraguay, the United States, Canada, Mexico and other non-Latin American countries is included in the annex.

6.2. Monthly Bulletins

In order to update IADN members on the Secretariat's work, a monthly bulletin is sent out to almost 1,000 recipients, including both members and others interested in the IADN. The January IADN bulletin announced such as important feats as the launching of INFORID, results from the December Coordinating Group, the newly redesigned website, and the results of the December Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) meeting. Bulletins will continue to be emailed the first week of each month and available on the IADN website.

The January bulletin is included in the annex.

VI. Providing a Comprehensive Menu of Online Services

6.1. IADN Website Redesigned

Over the past quarter, the Secretariat staff, in conjunction with Partners and the Coordinating Group, have been designing and developing a new IADN website. The new, comprehensive and more user friendly website has now replaced the previous site and can be viewed at: <http://www.redinter.org>. Most of the site's content is available in English, Spanish and Portuguese. Further, the site has been specifically tailored to meeting the demands of the new e-services provided by the SERID including INFORID, daily news clippings, an e-library, and virtual classes.

The newly redesigned homepage can be found in the annex.

VII. Highlighting the Importance of Citizen Participation

7.1. Citizen Participation Index

In the last two quarters, Partners and the IADN financed a pilot project in Chile to develop and implement a citizen participation index. Through a national telephone survey, the pilot project gauged current citizen participation and motivations for participation in Chile. 1,017 people from 49 communities participated from November 3-25, 2003. The survey was constructed around 11 areas of participation: political, religious, neighborhood/regional, athletics, charitable work, professional organizations, education, arts and culture, electoral registration, political activism, and public demonstrations or expressions of opinion. According to the results, over 60 percent of respondents were determined to have a medium level of participation. Further, participation is greater among men than among women, higher regionally than in the capital, greatest among persons of upper-middle class socio-economic status, and highest among persons over age 36. Interestingly, the survey also found that the highest areas of participation are the following: 70 percent of respondents are listed in the electoral registry; 41 percent participate in benefit or volunteer activities; and 28 percent are involved in religious activities.

In the coming months, the IADN will be building upon the success of and lessons learned in the implementation of the pilot project in order to develop a regional citizen participation index. The Secretariat is currently evaluating different strategies for this regional initiative.

The results of the pilot project are outlined in the attached document "Citizen Participation Index Presentation" included in the annex.

Annex

1. IADN Workplan
2. December 2003 Coordinating Group Meeting Notes
3. Virtual Course for Civil Society Organizations – Curriculum and Bibliography
4. Curriculum Vitae - Marcos Villamán and Gonzalo de la Maza
5. IADN Proposal to ICA

6. IADN Quarterly Narrative Report and its Second Annex
7. “Americas Democracy Observatory” concept paper
8. IADN Brochure Draft Text draft
9. Journalist databases for the following countries:
 - Argentina
 - Paraguay
 - United States, Canada, Mexico and other non-Latin American countries
10. Sample INFORID Articles:
 - “INEA from Peru Created International Corruption Measurement Methodology”
 - “The Voto Consciente Movement from Brazil Released a Report on Civil Society”
 - “Civil Society Organizations Submitted Valuable Proposals to the Ministers at the Special Summit of the Americas”
11. IADN January Monthly Bulletin
12. Printout of the New Homepage
13. “Citizen Participation Index Presentation”

IV. PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

During the reporting period, Partners designed and submitted to USAID for its review and approval an annual workplan and recruited and hired two new team members, Jason Marczak and Vonda Brown, to fill the open Democracy Specialist and Transparency Specialist positions, respectively. These positions were created under the recently-approved Cooperative Agreement with USAID. Moreover, Partners worked closely with the IADN Secretariat to fully and effectively transfer coordination of the Network from Esquel Foundation in Ecuador to Poder Ciudadano and Asociacion Conciencia in Argentina, establish critical alliances and new collaborations, revitalize working committees of the IADN Coordinating Group and plan strategically for the coming year. Special emphasis was placed by Partners on the finalization of the Participation and Democracy Grants Program, funded under its past Cooperative Agreement with USAID. Outcomes, lessons learned and effective practices were captured in a series of twenty-some case studies Partners authored with implementing CSOs. Building on this experience, Partners began the design and development of a new grantmaking program. Finally, Partners worked closely with CSOs from throughout the region to examine and analyze the nature of CSO participation in the Summit process, identify untapped strategic areas for engagement, and plan strategically for the 2005 Summit in Argentina.

VI. ANNEXES

Annex I

20. “Young Negotiators in Paraguay”- Transparencia Paraguay
21. “Education for Concerted Action” -Asociación para El Desarrollo de la Provincia Espaillat, Inc. (ADEPE)
22. “Transparency in the Governments of Two Municipalities of the State of Chiapas” - Alianza Cívica—Chiapas
23. “Citizen Participation for the Oversight of Local Government Functions” -Alianza Cívica—México, D.F. (Alianza-DF)
24. “Civil Society and Political Activism” -Centro de Estudios y Formación para el Ecodesarrollo (ALTER VIDA)
25. “Citizen Participation in the Departments of Cortes and Atlántida, Honduras” -Caritas de San Pedro Sula, Honduras
26. “Strengthening Access to Information and Citizen Participation in Mexican and Chilean Environmental Affairs” - Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental (CEMDA)
27. “Four Diplomas in Mediation and Negotiation” - Fundación Centro de Atención para Víctimas del Delito (CENAVID)
28. “Civic Action for the Environment” - Compañeros de las Americas Honduras-Vermont
29. “The Reform We All Want’ - Ciudadanos por la Reforma (CPR)
30. “Institutionalizing Democratic Processes through Participatory Local Indigenous Governments” - Fundación Esquel—Ecuador
31. “Transparency in Central America” - Fundación Democracia y Desarrollo de Honduras (FDDH)
32. “Promotion and Strengthening of Citizen Participation Among Women “Women Decide””- Corporación Grupo de Apoyo Pedagógico
33. “Citizen Oversight of Judicial System in the Andean Region” - Instituto de Estudios Comparados en Ciencias Penales y Sociales—INECIP
34. “Strengthening Civil Society and the Summit of the Americas” - Corporación Participa
35. “Transparency in Mexican Government Contracting” - Fundación Poder Ciudadano
36. “Democratic Transparency and Citizen Participation in Legislative Action” - Red por la Participación Ciudadana A.C.
37. “Citizen Vigilance and Social Monitoring of the National Reproductive and Sexual Health Program of Guatemala” - Red de Mujeres por la Construcción de la Paz
38. “Spreading Democratic Values through Mass Media” - Fundación Ricardo Boettner
39. “Advocacy for the Development of a New Law of the Rondas Campesinas”- Asociación Servicios Educativos Rurales—SER

Annex II

1. Trade, Democracy and Human Rights Workshop Agenda
2. Trade, Democracy and Human Rights Workshop Summary and Recommendations
3. ATSDF General Agenda
4. Two Partners/IADN Press Releases
5. FTAA Ministerial Declaration

6. *Miami Herald* news article: “Requests from an oft-ignored corner”
7. Follow-up Strategy for Civil Society Implementation of the Quebec Plan of Action Preliminary Results
8. Mexico City Regional Forum Agenda
9. Mexico City Regional Forum Proposals
10. Special Summit of the Americas (SSA) Civil Society Forum Agenda
11. SSA Civil Society Forum Recommendations
12. Declaration of Nuevo León
13. Partners’ SSA Civil Society Forum Press Release
14. Partners’ SSA Civil Society Forum Event Summary
15. Subcontract Agreement with the Esquel Group Foundation
16. Agenda for the December 2003 and January 2004 Civil Society Task Force Meeting
17. INFORID article highlighting civil society recommendations from the SSA
18. “From Quebec to Nuevo León: The Results of the Special Summit of the Americas”
19. Subcontract agreement between Partners and Corporación Participa
20. Participa’s Summit Follow-Up Narrative Report

Annex III

1. Meeting Notes ICMA, Partners of the Americas and IADN
2. Meeting Notes UNDP, Partners of the Americas and IADN
3. Invitation to participate in the XIII Asamblea General Ordinaria de Alcaldes y Autoridades Electas de Centroamericano, FEMICA
4. Meeting Notes with Transparency International-USA
5. IADN and Partners of the Americas Transparency and Anti-Corruption Small Grants Program Advisory-Selection Committee Summary

Annex IV

1. IADN Workplan
2. December 2003 Coordinating Group Meeting Notes
3. INFORID Ethics Code
4. Virtual Course for Civil Society Organizations – Curriculum and Bibliography
5. Curriculum Vitae - Marcos Villamán and Gonzalo de la Maza
6. IADN Proposal to ICA
7. IADN Quarterly Narrative Report and its Second Annex
8. “Americas Democracy Observatory” concept paper
9. IADN Brochure Draft Text draft
10. Journalist databases for the following countries:
 - Argentina
 - Paraguay
 - United States, Canada, Mexico and other non-Latin American countries
11. Sample INFORID Articles:
 - “INEA from Peru Created International Corruption Measurement Methodology”
 - “The Voto Consciente Movement from Brazil Released a Report on Civil Society”

- “Civil Society Organizations Submitted Valuable Proposals to the Ministers at the Special Summit of the Americas”
12. IADN January Monthly Bulletin
 13. Printout of the New Homepage
 14. “Citizen Participation Index Presentation”